

Message Text

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ORIGIN HA-05

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APPROVED BY HA/HR:MSCHNEIDER
AF/E:LJANOWSKI
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 128957

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, TZ

SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS

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REFERENCE: DAR ES SALAAM 1936

1. DEPARTMENT CONCURS WITH SUGGESTION IN PARA SIX REFTEL THAT WE CONVEY TO SENIOR LEVELS OF TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT OUR APPRECIATION OF RECENT RELEASES OF POLITICAL DETAINEES AND OTHER ACTIONS INDICATING MORE POSITIVE APPROACH TO CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS. HOWEVER, WE ALSO WISH TO AVOID OVERLY CONGRATULATORY REACTION AND MAKE CLEAR OUR CONTINUING CONCERN WITH THE FUNDAMENTAL CONSTRAINTS THAT REMAIN ON ENJOYMENT OF CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS.

2. ACCORDINGLY EMBASSY REQUESTED TO MAKE FOLLOWING POINTS AT HIGHEST APPROPRIATE LEVEL OF TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT.
-- U. S. ENCOURAGED BY SERIES OF STEPS TAKEN BY PRESIDENT
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NYERERE AND HIS GOVERNMENT SINCE BEGINNING OF THIS YEAR REGARDING RELEASE AND AMNESTY OF POLITICAL DISSIDENTS, SANCTIONS AGAINST POLICE ABUSES AND COMPENSATION FOR THOSE WHOSE HOUSES WERE DESTROYED DURING RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS IN TANZANIA HAVE GENERATED AN INTEREST AMONG U. S. OBSERVERS IN AND OUT OF GOVERNMENT,

INCLUDING THE CONGRESS, COMMENSURATE WITH TANZANIA'S
PROMINENCE IN AFRICA AND GENERAL CONTEXT OF NON-ALIGNED
LEADERS. THE RECENT RELEASES ACCORDINGLY HAVE ATTRACTED
FAVORABLE ATTENTION TO TANZANIA.

-- USG WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING IF RELEASES ARE
ISOLATED EVENTS OR IF THEY REPRESENT A TREND TOWARDS
LIBERALIZATION.

3. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S UPDATE ON
NUMBERS OF REMAINING TANZANIAN AND FOREIGN AFRICAN
POLITICAL DETAINEES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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